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UNCLAS ANKARA 001482

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: AF EAID PREL TU

SUBJECT: TURKEY TO SUPPORT U.S. POSITION AT BERLIN
CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN

REF: SECSTATE 47946

¶1. Turkey's Coordinator for Afghanistan Reconstruction, Ambassador Ahmet Okcun, confirmed that Turkey will attend the Berlin meeting. He said Foreign Minister Gul hopes to lead the Turkish delegation but faces some scheduling conflicts. Okcun was pleased to hear that Secretary Powell would be in Berlin and said the Secretary's attendance would be a strong incentive for Gul to attend.

¶2. Okcun said Turkey agrees with the U.S. commitment to the Bonn Roadmap and the position of the U.S. that the Roadmap will not automatically expire after the June 2004 elections. Turkey will support the U.S. position in Berlin.

¶3. Turkey will confirm its USD 10 million pledge to Afghanistan's reconstruction. Turkey has already disbursed over USD 5 million.

EDELMAN